service of India which means ending of poverty, ignorance, disease and inequality of opportunity. The above ambition set by our first Prime Minister is still relevant in the present situation.

(c) After Independence, India has resorted to a planned development primarily to guide the direction of development. The alleviation of poverty, disease, illiteracy and development of social and economic infrastructure has been the priority areas of the various Five Years Plans. As a result of the above strategy, there has been a significant reduction in poverty ratio which has come down from 54.9 per cent in 1973-74 to 27.5 per cent 2004-05. Similarly, in the health and education sectors, there has been a significant achievements in terms of increased expectancy of life, reduction in infant morality rate and significant improvement in the literacy rate etc. The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) envisages reduction in the headcount ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points for which various programmes including programmes for generating wage and self-employment are being implemented. To achieve the objective of inclusive growth, some of the major initiatives taken include National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Mid-day Meal Scheme, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA) etc.

India's rank in human development report

†1613. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has been placed at 138th rank in Human Development Report of United Nations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether development of India seems quite slow in comparison to the other developing countries in terms of level of basic human amenities; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) India has been placed at 134th rank in Human Development Report (HDR) of UNDP 2009 (based on data up to 2007). The HDR 2009 includes the data for 192 UN member States. India with Human Development Index (HDI) value of 0.612 reflects an improvement over the previous report which indicated the HDI value of 0.604.

(c) and (d) India has registered a consistent improvement in HDI value which was 0.427 in 1980 and improved to 0.612 in 2007. The HDR 2009 also reveals that average annual growth rate in HDI value in respect of India has been 1.36 per cent during the period 2000-07 which is significant as

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

compared to many other developing countries. The HDI is based on parameters such as life expectancy at birth, adult literacy ratio, combined gross enrolment ratio in education and GDP per capita. The Government strategy of strengthening social infrastructure has a positive impact in improving the living conditions of the people. The implementation of flagship programmes such as National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Sarva Sikhsha Abhiyaan (SSA) and poverty alleviation by providing wage and self employment, providing safe drinking water and effective implementation of sanitation campaign etc. are expected to further improve the India's ranking in HDI.

Special status to Bihar

†1614. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from Government of Bihar for giving special status to the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that the former Government prior to the constitution of present Government had intended that Bihar be made resourceful by according it special status to eradicate its backwardness; and

(d) if so, whether Government will give special status to Bihar by taking action according to its earlier expressed intentions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) A proposal regarding special category status has been received from the State Government of Bibar and Government of India is seized of the matter.

Gross State Domestic Product

1615. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the real growth rate of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at 1999-2000 prices, national *vis-a-vis* State-wise, during the Tenth Five Year Plan and targeted in the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) what has been the GSDP for 2007-08 and 2008-09;

(c) the reasons for which Jharkhand has a low growth rate in GSDP, in spite of being rich in mineral resources; and

(d) the details of the measures taken to accelerate the growth in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The State wise details of real growth rate of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at 1999-2000 prices, during the Tenth Five Year Plan, Eleventh Five Year Plan and for the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 are given in the Statement.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.